

AUTOPSY REPORT -- Continued

NAME ARGENTINO, Nancy

AUTOPSY NO. MEC83-72

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OPINION: After review of the history and complete autopsy of the body of Miss Nancy Argentino, death is attributed to craniocerebral injuries, the pattern of which is consistent with a moving head striking at stationary object but is not consistent with a single simple fall in view of the multitudeness other scalp, facial and bodily bruises and abrasions.

The multiplicity and magnitude of the injuries may even be suggestive of "mate" abuse.

I personally checked the clothing that Miss Argentino was wearing at the time of her injury, that is the slip and fall on the berm of the road and find no evidence of dirt or tears of the fabric. They were subsequently submitted for criminalistic evaluation. The hair and scalp were also examined at the time of the autopsy and no gravel or other similar dirt particles were noted.

The brain injury in terms of hypoxia is at least 12 hours duration during which time the neuropathologist feels that the patient would have been unconscious. The terminal aspirational bronchopneumonia is consistent with an unconscious state.

In view of the autopsy findings and the discrepancies in the clinical history, I believe that the case should be investigated as a homicide until proven otherwise.



I. Mihalakis, M.D.
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